

Fiscal Year 2005

1st Quarter  
(July – Sept. 2004)

## New Hampshire Department of Resources & Economic Development Division of Forests and Lands Quarterly Update



### Highlights

- The Urban Forestry Center in Portsmouth was the site of the 2004 United Way Day of Caring. More than 90 volunteers spent a Saturday working on the trails and gardens. (see picture on page 3)
- Division staff participated in a workshop titled *Growing Trees and Cutting Timber on State Forests & Parks*. The workshop focused on the unique challenges of managing state owned forests and parks and was attended by more than 50 resource professionals from around the state.

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*As part of **Smokey Bear's 60<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration** the New Hampshire Division of Forests and Lands teamed up with the New Hampshire Fisher Cats baseball team to spread Smokey Bear's message of wildfire prevention at a home game in August. Smokey spent the evening visiting with fans and also had the honor of throwing out the first pitch.*

*On July 21<sup>st</sup> the Division of Forests and Lands joined **Councilor Raymond Burton** in hosting a summer field tour with **DRED Commissioner Sean O'Kane**. Tour stops included Fraser Papers in Berlin, Mt. Prospect Fire Tower, Nash Stream State Forest, the DRED north region headquarters, and the property of Richard Alger (pictured right) - forest landowner in Milan. Members of the Forest Advisory Board, and Cooperative Extension staff were also in attendance.*



***North Region office receives a facelift.** The North Country headquarters for DRED, Fish & Game, and Cooperative Extension got a long overdue painting through the cooperative efforts of regional staff. North region fire tower staff spent their low fire danger days helping out with the project.*

# Quarterly Update

## Forest Management

CURRENT ONGOING TIMBER SALE ACTIVITY						
SALE	TOWN	ACRES	BOARD FEET (in thousands)	CORDS	VALUE	STATUS
Cardigan SF	Orange	95	255	1217	\$117,318.94	Operating
Province Road	Dorchester	40	97.8	450		Sale shown
Hemenway	Tamworth	39.6	205.8	200	\$28,312.60	Under Contract
Fay SF	Lincoln	164	226	1,860	\$126,134.59	Operating
Kona WMA	Moultonborough	162	761	677	\$151,212.80	Operating
White Lake SP	Tamworth	130	506	145	\$121,918.10	Operating
Cardigan SF	Orange	111	104	425	\$11,805.00	Operating
Wade SF	Hill	33.5	114	237	\$26,066.00	Operating
Gile SF	Springfield	140	227	2,011	\$67,557.12	Under contract
Enfield SF	Enfield	90	92	527	\$78,800.20	Under contract
Honey Brook	Marlow	82	298	235	\$71,552	Operating
Lamontagne & Woodman Marsh	Deerfield & Northwood	84	314	642		Contract signed
Nash Stream SF	Stark	227	110	1,537	\$52,732.36	Contract pending
Nash Stream SF	Stratford	165	102	1,750 670 tons	\$40,771.00	Operating
Perkins Pond WMA	Weare	100	210	436	\$26,107.44	Operating (inactive)
Mast Yard	Concord	72	363	257	\$46,738	Operating
Bear Brook	Allenstown	151	407	970	\$92,056	Operating

QUARTERLY INVENTORY and MAPPING				
Property	Town	Field Work (acres)	Inventory Reports & Mapping (acres)	Data Management (acres)
Franklin Falls	Franklin	213		
Nash Stream	Stark			400
Moose Brook SP	Gorham	490		
Ballard SF	Derry			71
Pine River SF	Effingham	489		
Kearsarge SF	Andover	207		
Sugar Hill	Bristol	70		

### Forest Management Quarterly Highlights

<b>Forestry &amp; Wildlife</b>	145 Acres of wildlife habitat enhancement including 22 areas of old field restoration, 5.2 acres of stumping for cool season grass establishment in an old field, 1.5 acres of early successional habitat improvement, 104 acres of mowing at Franklin Falls & Hopkinton Everett Flood Control Areas.
<b>Forest Roads</b>	Repairs to over 5 miles of road. Roadside mowing on 61 miles of road.
<b>Forest Research</b>	Installation of red pine growth & yield plots at Honey Brook and red oak plots at Walker SF. Remeasurement of oak/pine regeneration plots at Kingston State Park. Developing volume equations based on stem taper for softwood and equations for cordwood volume estimation.
<b>TSI</b>	20 Acres of white pine release work was conducted at Hemenway SF
<b>Education &amp; Outreach</b>	Conducted workshops on boating safety and BMP's for water quality. Reconstructed the boardwalk at Mud Pond, Fox State Forest. Developed and staffed a display for the Green Mountain Conservation Group watershed weekend.
<b>Nursery</b>	Sixteen acres of seedbeds (50 species) successfully maintained throughout the growing season. Seed collection and processing begins in summer in preparation for fall sowing. The nursery continues to provide pin cherry for cancer research project. Branches from the balsam fir seed orchard were provided for research project on needle retention for the Christmas tree industry.
<b>Easements</b>	Began Connecticut Lakes easement monitoring, review of easement monitoring at Strawberry Hill SF with easement holder (SPNHF). Review and comment on potential timber sales on water resources land around Lake Francis in Pittsburg.

**Highlights** – In our continuing effort to protect New Hampshire from hemlock woolly adelgid (HWA), one of the greatest threats to the health and sustainability of eastern hemlock, we burned over 1000 infested hemlocks that had been or were about to be planted around the state.

#### Outreach

- Article on common forest defoliators published in the NH Timber Crier.
- Presented 2 tours for USDA Forest Service staff on balsam woolly adelgid and Caliciopsis pine canker
- Cooperated on International Field Study of brown spruce longhorned beetle in Halifax, Canada.

#### Regulation

- Continued the HWA timber harvest inspections, and inspections of forest lots and yards.
- Discovered new infestations of HWA in Kensington within the Rockingham County quarantine area.

#### Technical Assistance

- Responded to 42 requests for information on forest health issues, predominantly hemlock woolly adelgid, white pine weevil and general tree health.
- Made 24 site visits to landowners with forest/tree health problems.
- 23 hours technical assistance to forest management activities on state forest lands.

#### Forest Health Evaluation

- Began the first phase of a project to determine the cause of roadside mortality through Franconia Notch State Park. Crown condition and soil samples were collected on 58 plots.
- Conducted Emerald Ash Borer (EAB) surveys in each county. No EAB found
- Completed annual inventories for forest tent caterpillar, saddle prominent, balsam woolly adelgid, ash yellows, hemlock woolly adelgid, bruce spanworm and spruce budworm.

#### Eradication

- Approximately 30 trees exposed to HWA treated with pesticides as preventative.
- Assisted the NH Department of Agriculture in tracing and destroying over 1000 hemlocks infested with HWA at nurseries

## Community Forestry & Stewardship

#### Outreach & Education

- 9 Programs were presented at the Urban Forestry Center and Shieling Forest. They were attended by 166 people.
- Coming Events flyers were distributed to 4,065 individuals. The cover article for the flyer was titled “Trees to Share with Wildlife”.
- Staff responded to 593 requests for information
- 900 Community Forestry Advisory Committee Newsletters were distributed.
- Distributed the 2005 Festival of Trees Grant program/scholarship applications
- Participated in the organization of 2 professional training programs including “Dialogue on Diversity” & “State Forest Land Management”.

#### Community Assistance

- Technical assistance was provided to 11 communities including Atkinson, Belmont, Dover, Exeter, Gilford, Madbury, Newmarket, Northwood, Portsmouth, Rochester, & Strafford.

#### Partnership Activities

- Hosted the 2004 United Way Day of Caring at the Urban Forestry Center attended by 93 volunteers.
- Participated in Community Tree Steward training program for 204 trained Community Tree Stewards.
- Attended the Northeast Urban Forestry Coordinators Meeting in Boston, MA. The focus of the conference was inventory & assessment of urban forestry resources and volunteer accomplishments. Approximately 70 urban forestry professionals from around the region attended.

*United Way Day of Caring volunteers worked on trails, repaired bridges and cleaned up gardens around the Urban Forestry Center in Portsmouth.*



## Natural Heritage

Activities	Information	Qtr	Ytd
Database records added or updated	Biological and Conservation Data System (BCD) & Biotics	1797	1797
Environmental reviews	For: DES / DOT / federal grants / planning boards	319	319
Information requests – GIS		7	7
– Other		900	900
Landowners contacted – survey permission		0	0
Projects opened	White Mountain Data, NPS Indicators, CWP II, St. Gaudens 2, Invasives Pilot, Sunapee West Bowl, ConsPlate III.	7	7
Projects closed		0	0
Reports prepared	Ahern State Park Inventory	1	1
Training / Workshops presented / Assisted	Granite State SAF; Old Growth Conference (2 presentations)	3	3
Training / Workshops Attendees		130	130
Other outreach	North Country Summer Tour	1	1
Web page additions	Natural Communities of New Hampshire, Wetland Ecological Systems of NH	2	2
Web page visits		2375	2375
Professional Improvement Training Attended	Humboldt Institute seminar on grasses	1	1
Committee / Meetings Attended	Comprehensive Wildlife planning meetings; State Land Management Team; NH Invasive Species Committee	3	3
Conferences Attended	Eastern Old Growth Conference	1	1

### Urban Forester – Highlights

- Invited Reviewer: University of New Hampshire Cooperative Extension Fact Sheet – “Alternatives to Invasive Landscape Plants”
- Assessed invasive potential of Japanese Tree Lilac at Saint Gaudens National Historic Site, Cornish, NH
- Presented seven arboriculture training seminars to commercial, utility, and industry candidate arborists in preparation for the fall New Hampshire Arborists Association Arborists Certification Exam.
- Monitored six New Hampshire Tree Memorials tree plantings. Responded to 13 inquiries about the NH Tree Memorials Program.
- Monitored urban forestry activities in nineteen New Hampshire TREECITYUSA communities.

## Land Management

### Land Management

- Entered into a service contract to reclaim the overgrown Garden Plots on Clinton Street, Concord.
- New 5-year renewals for 10 camp site licenses at Umbagog State Park were issued.
- Prepared survey maps for the Pillsbury/Sunapee Forest Legacy Program conservation easement project

### Acquisitions

- Closed on the 18-acre Murphy Lot in Nash Stream Forest which includes a portion of the Kelsey Notch snowmobile corridor.
- Continued work on the following forest land acquisitions: Pillsbury/Sunapee Highlands, Rossview Farm, Baker Site 7 Tract, Moose Mountain, Fall Mountain, Trout Pond, 13-Mile Woods II, Priest house lot at Shieling SF.
- Continue to work on the following acquisitions for Division of Parks: Fort Hill Campground - Hinsdale, Mt. Washington Summit/Dartmouth tract, Reed Tract & Jewell Lot at Monadnock SP, Jerico Lake, Berlin.

### Technical Assistance

- Issued 9 special use permits on DRED lands
- Prepared surveys for the Blue Job parking lot project, Bear Brook well site & Archery Pond project, Profile Lake viewing area, Miller SP summit for trail relocation, & Kingston Lake drainage relocation
- Prepared the following maps: Fall Foliage Tour, Fire Tower & Radio Repeater, Fox Forest Boardwalk, Lower Shaker WMA, & Wagner Woodlands snowmobile trails.

### Boundary Line Maintenance

- A total of 14.3 miles of boundary line maintenance was completed.

## Forest Legacy Program

The Forest Legacy Program is a partnership between participating States and the USDA Forest Service to identify and help protect environmentally important forests from conversion to non-forest uses. Conservation easements are the main tool used for protecting these lands. The Division of Forests and Lands administers this program.

### Year-to-Date Status of New Hampshire Forest Legacy Projects

Project	Application Approved	Funded	Project Status
Pillsbury-Sunapee <i>Bradford, Goshen, Newbury, Washington</i>	6/6/01	\$2,499,000	appraisal & survey completed, easement under final negotiations,
Moose Mountain <i>Middleton, Brookfield, New Durham, Alton</i>	8/13/02	\$988,000	limited use appraisal completed landowner negotiations
13 Mile Woods II <i>Errol, Cambridge</i>	8/13/02	FY05 request President - \$2 mil. House - \$0.5 mil. Senate - \$2 mil.	easement under development appraisal complete
Trout Pond <i>Freedom, Madison</i>	8/13/02	FY05 request President - \$1.5 mil. House - 0 Senate - \$1.5 mil.	easement under development
Rossview Farm <i>Concord</i>	5/25/04	FY06 request	easement under development
Willard Pond	9/23/04	FY06 request	
Temple Mountain	9/23/04	FY06 request	



## Forest Fire & Law Enforcement

Law Enforcement Activity																
	Deceptive Forestry		Timber Trespass		Water Quality		B/A Slash		Timber Tax		Fire		Other		Total	
	qtr	ytd	qtr	ytd	qtr	ytd	qtr	ytd	qtr	ytd	qtr	ytd	qtr	ytd	qtr	ytd
Court Summons - Felony															0	0
Court Summons - Misdemeanor											1	1			1	1
Court Summons – Violation					3	3			1	1					4	4
Administrative Summons			3	3	3	3			4	4	5	5			15	15
Warning	4	4	8	8	26	26	29	29	36	36	25	25	2	2	130	130
Cease & Desist					5	5			4	4	1	1			10	10
Total	4	4	11	11	37	37	29	29	45	45	32	32	2	2	160	160
Timber Sale Activity																
			Qtr		YTD											
Number of Intents Filed			1073		1073											
Number of Initial Inspections			582		582											
Number of Reinspections			125		125											
Fire Protection and Prevention Activities																
			Qtr		YTD											
Number of Fires			103		103											
Total Acres			5.445		5.445											
Number of Structures																
Reported by:																
Tower			43		43											
Air Patrol			8		8											
Mobile Patrol																
Citizen Call			40		40											
Ranger			4		4											
Outreach																
			Total				Attendees									
			Qtr		YTD		Qtr		YTD							
Calls for Service – Timber Law Enforcement			339		339											
Calls for Service – Fire Law Enforcement			106		106											
Calls for Service – Fire protection			323		323											
Student Presentations			3		3		600		600							
Public Presentations			28		28		4616		4616							
Fire Training			11		11		164		164							
Timber Law Enforcement Training			3		3		25		25							



Smokey Bear celebrated his 60<sup>th</sup> birthday with a few hundred of his best friends, including Sparky the Fire Dog, at a party in his honor at Franconia Notch State Park. Party-goers enjoyed games, displays, hayrides, and a birthday cake big enough to share. Smokey attended parades and events throughout the summer and fall in recognition of the important role his symbol has played in wildfire prevention for the past six decades.

### Employee Recognition & Personnel Status

#### New Employees and Vacancies

**Donna Haskins** joins the Community Forestry staff as the Program Assistant at the Urban Forestry Center in Portsmouth.

**Robert MacGregor**, Regional Forester for the Forest Management Bureau, left the Division after 18 years of service to take a position with the USDA Forest Service as a Silviculturalist on the Ottawa National Forest in Ironwood, Michigan.

Vacancies include: Forest Management Bureau Administrator, Forest Protection Bureau Administrator, Forest Ranger I, and Regional Forester.

### Governor Proclamations

#### Smokey Bear Day

Recognizing Smokey Bear's 60 years as the USDA Forest Service symbol for wildfire prevention; Governor Craig Benson proclaimed August 9, 2004 as Smokey Bear Day in New Hampshire. Citizens and organizations were encouraged to support the continuing efforts and beneficial results of the Smokey Bear campaign in spreading the wildfire prevention message throughout the state and country.



For More Information:

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